



CITY OF DETROIT
LAW DEPARTMENT

COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER
2 WOODWARD AVENUE, SUITE 500
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3437
PHONE 313•224•4550
FAX 313•224•5505
WWW.DETROITMI.GOV

September 6, 2019

Emma Best
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 79551
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

**RE: Freedom of Information Act Request No. A19-07202, Dated August 26, 2019,
Concerning City of Detroit Records Pertaining to Records of Consultations
Regarding Public Records Requests**

Dear Ms. Best:

This letter serves as the City of Detroit's response to the above-referenced matter. Your request was received at the City of Detroit Law Department FOIA Section on August 27, 2019. Thank you for your patience in this matter.

Your request seeks:

Copies of any emails, letters, memos or other records of consultations regarding public records requests (FOI/FOIL/FOIA etc.) with either the Department of Justice, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug Enforcement Agency components.

Your request is denied pursuant to MCL 15.233(1), for the reason that, based on information provided by City of Detroit Police Department ("DPD") personnel, it is our understanding that your request is too broadly written to describe the requested records sufficiently to enable the DPD to find them. Your request would require DPD personnel to search every office, cubicle, file cabinet, and file, and query every DPD employee, for the requested records, which is not administratively practical. See Capitol Information Association v. Ann Arbor Police, 138 Mich. App. 655, 360 N.W.2d 262 (1984).

You can find the summary of the City of Detroit Freedom of Information Act procedures and guidelines at <https://detroitmi.gov/document/foia-procedures-and-guidelines> and <https://detroitmi.gov/how-do-i/request-document/foia-freedom-information-act-request>.

Please note that pursuant to Section 10 and 10a of the Act, MCL 15.240 and 15.240a, a person receiving a written denial of a request or receiving a letter to submit the labor costs may do one of the following:

- 1) Submit a written appeal to the head of the public body denying the request. Such appeal, if submitted, should specifically state the word "appeal" and identify the reason or



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reasons for reversal of the disclosure denial. MCL 15.240(1)(a) and MCL 15.240a(1)(a); or

- 2) Commence an action in the circuit court to compel the disclosure of the public records within 180 days after the public body's denial of the request, MCL 15.240(1)(b), or 45 days after the public body's request for labor costs, MCL 15.240a(1)(b). If a court finds that the information withheld by a public body is not exempt from disclosure, or that the labor costs requested by the public body exceeds the amount permitted, the requesting party may receive the requested record and, at the discretion of the court, reasonable attorney fees and/or costs. MCL 15.240(6) and (7), and MCL 15.240a(6) and (7).

Very truly yours,

Karl Newman

Karl Newman
Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel
FOIA Section
City of Detroit Law Department
Phone Number: (313) 237-0413
Email Address: newmank@detroitmi.gov

